



NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: LT. JEFF FROST
FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL
850-617-2301

FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL TO TICKET AGGRESSIVE CARS AND TRUCKS

~ Big trucks equal big blind spots, so pass safely ~

DAYTONA, Fla. – Drivers on Florida roadways may want to practice some relaxation techniques before hitting the road this month. The Florida Highway Patrol today announced an education and enforcement campaign to ticket aggressive truck and car drivers. In crashes involving cars and commercial trucks, actions by drivers account for 88 percent of the crashes. Only 12 percent of the crashes are the result of vehicle defects, road conditions or inclement weather. The campaign aims to reduce commercial motor vehicle-related crashes, injuries and fatalities by combining outreach, education and evaluation with targeted enforcement activities to raise awareness among car and truck drivers about safe driving behaviors.

“The Florida Highway Patrol is committed to keeping our roadways safe for all motorists, and we are pleased to partner with the Florida Trucking Association on this safety campaign,” said Col. David Brierton. “Whether you are driving a commercial motor vehicle or a passenger car, it is a driver’s responsibility to drive with care.”

On Feb. 27 - 29, troopers statewide will be on the lookout for violations attributed to aggressive driving such as: following too closely, unsafe lane change and speeding; committed by truck and car drivers as they interact on Florida highways.

In addition to targeted enforcement, the campaign will use billboard and radio messaging to increase awareness among car and truck drivers of safe driving behaviors around one another and of the heightened risk of receiving a ticket for a violation. In addition, FHP will collaborate with the Florida Trucking Association to conduct activities at schools and community centers around the state to educate drivers on how to share the road safely with trucks.

FTA President and CEO, Mary Lou Rajchel, said, “Safety on Florida’s roadways is a cooperative effort by cars and trucks alike. As an industry, safety is at the top of our minds—it matters above all else. We are pleased with the opportunity to take our *No Zone* message about safe driving behaviors around big rigs on the road with the Florida Highway Patrol. Pairing the ‘big trucks equal big blind spots’ message with the opportunity to ‘see what our drivers see’ through community education is a unique approach that we believe will promote responsible driving for everyone.”

The Institute of Police Technology and Management will conduct surveys prior to and after the education and enforcement campaign to measure the campaign’s effectiveness.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provides highway safety and security through excellence in service, education and enforcement. The Department is leading the way to a safer Florida through the efficient and professional execution of its core mission: the issuance of driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and operation of the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV and the services offered, visit www.flhsmv.gov or follow us on Twitter @[FDHSMV](https://twitter.com/FDHSMV). You can find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/FDHSMV), too.

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